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GUIDE TO PUBLIC VITAL STATISTICS IN ALABAMA

PRELIMINARY EDITION

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
ALABAMA HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
SERVICE DIVISION
WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION
1942

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Historical Records Survey. Alabama

GUIDE TO PUBLIC VITAL STATISTICS IN ALABAMA

Preliminary Edition

Prepared by

ALABAMA HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY PROJECT
SERVICE DIVISION
WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

Sponsor

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
STATE OF ALABAMA

Birmingham, Alabama
Alabama Historical Records Survey Project
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"To bring together the records of the past and to house them in buildings where they will be preserved for the use of men living in the future, a nation must believe in three things. It must believe in the past. It must believe in the future. It must, above all, believe in the capacity of its people so to learn from the past that they can gain in judgment for the creation of the future."

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

FOREWORD

A directory of where records of birth, death, marriage, and divorce occurring in the State of Alabama are now located, such as this one, should prove of great value to individuals seeking to locate records of that nature. Such information is now imperative with the present demand for such information, the greatest the United States has ever experienced.

Individuals writing to any locality for such records should be careful to furnish at least the four following facts: date of birth, place of birth, full name of father, and full maiden name of mother. Less information may cause a material delay in locating the record or of finding it at all.

To those who are interested in the history of the development of vital statistics in Alabama, the following pages should prove interesting reading.

LEONARD V. PHELPS
Director
Bureau of Vital Statistics
State Department of Public Health

Montgomery, Alabama
March 13, 1942

PREFACE

The Historical Records Survey program was organized in the winter of 1935-36 by Dr. Luther H. Evans. Dr. Evans continued as Director until March 1, 1940, when he was succeeded by Sargent B. Child, who had served in the capacity of Field Supervisor since the inauguration of the Survey program.

The Guide to Public Vital Statistics Records in Alabama: Preliminary Edition covers county records only and is not complete as to these. It includes approximately 77 percent of all county vital statistics records reported in Alabama between 1937 and 1942, in the course of surveying records of every character in 64 of Alabama's 67 counties. Of these 64 counties, birth and death records were reported from 55; marriage records, from 63; and divorce records, from 34. The primary arrangement of this material is in sections by type of vital statistics record; the secondary arrangement is by county. The record entries show inclusive dates, the nature of each record, number of volumes or other containers, method of arrangement, and indexing. The title and address of the custodian and the cost of certified copies are indicated in an essay prefixed to each section of the book.

Acknowledgment is due Mr. Leonard V. Phelps, Director, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State Department of Public Health, who kindly consented to write a foreword for the volume, and to the numerous custodians of vital statistics records throughout the State for their cooperation in the inventorying of their records. Our thanks are also due to Mrs. Marie Bankhead Owen, Director, State Department of Archives and History, the official sponsor of the Alabama Historical Records Survey Project; and to Miss Mary Weber, Mr. C. B. Glass, and other officials of the Work Projects Administration, from which this Project has received cordial cooperation and support.

Inventorying of vital statistics records in the field was done in Alabama by workers of the Historical Records Survey. The Guide was prepared for publication in the State Office of the Survey.

The publications of the Historical Records Survey are issued for free distribution to certain State and local public officials, to public libraries in Alabama, and to a limited number of libraries and governmental agencies outside the State. The present volume will also be distributed to all State Vital Statistics Bureaus in the United States. Requests for information concerning these publications should be addressed to the State Supervisor, Historical Records Survey, 500 Exchange Building, Birmingham, Alabama.

PAUL J. BENRIMO
State Supervisor
Historical Records Survey

Birmingham, Alabama
March 1942

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BIRTHS

During the first half-century of Alabama's existence as a State, public health activities within its boundaries were of the meagerest. Existing statutes empowered the Governor to take, at the expense of the State, such measures "as he shall deem meet" to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, and provision was made for the establishment of medical boards in a number of Alabama towns.[1] In 1861 there was enacted a general law which authorized (but did not require) the creation of county medical boards in all counties where such boards had not previously been created.[2]

It was not until 1875 that Alabama took the first step to establish recognized State and county health authorities, by designating the Alabama Medical Association and its affiliated county medical societies, respectively, as the State and county boards of health.[3] The powers of the county boards of health were advisory only and were exercised under the general direction of the State Board of Health; but the governing body of each county was authorized, in its discretion, to increase the powers of the county board of health "for the promotion of the public health."[4] In 1881, there was provided in each county a health officer, to be selected by the county board of health and compensated by the governing body of the county.[5] Further legislation in 1903 required the State Board of Health to select a State Health Officer to exercise general supervision over county boards of health and county officers, as directed by the State Board of Health.[6]

In 1919, there was enacted general legislation,[7] currently in force, to provide for smaller and more compact administrative bodies for both State and county health activities. By the terms of this law, the Alabama Medical Association continues to constitute the State Board of Health, but immediate administrative authority is vested in the Board of Censors (namely, the executive committee) of this organization; and this Board of Censors is designated, together with the Governor of the State acting ex officio, to be the State Committee of Public Health.[8] In each county, the Board of Censors of the County

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1. John G. Aikin, A Digest of the Laws of the State of Alabama, pp. 352-353.
2. Ala. Acts, Called Session, 1861, p. 37.
3. Ala. Acts, 1874-75, p. 130, secs. 3, 4.
4. Ibid., secs. 5, 6.
5. Ala. Acts, 1881, p. 76, sec. 3.
6. Ala. Acts, 1903, p. 499, sec. 5.
7. Ala. Acts, 1919, pp. 909-928.
8. Ibid., p. 909, sec. 1.

Medical Society, together with the presiding officer of the county governing body, constitutes the county board of health.[9] The same law provides that appointment of the county health officer by the county board of health must be approved by the State Committee of Public Health, and that this official's term may not be less than three years.[10]

Prior to 1881, a limited amount of information concerning the births of a few individuals was obtainable, as it still is, from certain records of the probate court (before 1850, of the orphan's court), such as the records of adoptions, guardianships, and apprenticeships; the will record and original wills filed for probate; and the various records maintained in connection with the settlement and division of estates. However, information so obtained seldom goes beyond the point of establishing the color, sex, and parentage of the ward, apprentice, or legatee, or of the person adopted.

Specific public birth records in Alabama were instituted by the act of 1881 referred to above, one section of which required the county health officer to register, in a book to be styled "The Register of Births," all births occurring in the county, under regulations prescribed by the county board of health, and making it mandatory for every physician, midwife, or other person attending a birth within the limits of the county to report the same to the county health officer, specifying the names of the parents, the date of the birth, the sex and color of the child, and such other details as might from time to time be prescribed by the county board of health.[11] Additional legislation in 1903 made such reports of births periodic, by requiring them to be made within the first five days of each calendar month.[12] Further legislation in 1907, and again in 1915, added to the items prescribed to be shown in the Register of Births, "the name, or names, age or ages, race, color and occupation of the parent or parents;" and both these acts required the county health officer to deposit each book of the birth register, when it was filled, in the office of the judge of probate of the county.[13]

The 1915 act further required each county health officer "to make to the State Board of Health by or before the 10th day of each calendar month a full report, so far as the facts reach him, . . . of all births . . . that occur in the county, including all municipalities therein, for the preceding month."[14]

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9. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 5.
10. Ibid., sec. 6.
11. Ala. Acts, 1880-81, p. 76, sec. 5.
12. Ala. Acts, 1903, p. 499, sec. 11.
13. Ala. Acts, 1907, p. 893, sec. 5; Ala. Acts, 1915, p. 782, sec. 1, subdivision 1.
14. Ala. Acts, 1915, p. 782, sec. 1, subdivision 6.

Births

The 1919 act referred to above, in addition to creating smaller and more widely administrative health boards for the State and counties, also introduced birth certificates and established the methods of reporting, compiling, and recording the facts concerning births throughout the State which are in effect today. Section 14 of this act created a State Bureau of Vital Statistics supervised by a State Registrar of Vital Statistics, who is appointed by the State Board of Health.[15] For the counties, in every voting precinct the same section established, a local registrar of vital statistics, likewise appointed by the State Board of Health, with whom each physician, midwife, or other attendant upon a birth within the particular precinct is required to file within ten days after the date of such birth, a certificate of the same, on a form prescribed by the State Board of Health.[16] If the person reporting the birth is unable to supply all the information required on the certificate form, it becomes the duty of the local registrar to secure it from every possible source, and the duty also of each person so interrogated to furnish the needed information; and if the child is not yet named, it is the duty of the parents to report the child's name as early as possible on a special blank to be returned to the local registrar. On the tenth day of each month each local registrar transmits to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics all original birth certificates registered by him for the preceding month, after these certificates have first been recorded in a book supplied to the local registrar for the purpose by the State Registrar; each such book, when filled, is deposited with the judge of probate of the county to constitute a permanent local record of births.[17] If no births have occurred within his precinct in any given month, the local registrar must report that fact also. A local registrar may, with the approval of the State Registrar appoint one or more subregistrars, each of whom functions, in the area for which he is appointed, as a local registrar.[18]

The original birth certificates sent in by the local registrars to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics are bound and indexed by the latter official and constitute a permanent State record of births.[19] Each local registrar and subregistrar operates under the immediate supervision and direction of the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, who is charged with the thorough and efficient execution of all details of the birth registration system in all parts of the State.[20]

A certified copy of the record of any birth in Alabama is obtainable from the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, upon payment by the

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15. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 2.
16. Ibid., subdivisions 4, 13, 14.
17. Ibid., subdivisions 14, 19.
18. Ibid., subdivision 4.
19. Ibid., subdivision 18.
20. Ibid., subdivisions 4, 18.

applicant of a fee of 50 cents.[21] It is provided that any such copy of the record of a birth, when properly certified by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, is prima facie evidence in all courts and places of the facts therein stated;[22] and it is further provided that for any search of his files and records when no certified copy is made, the State Registrar is entitled to a fee of 50 cents, to be paid by the applicant, for each hour, or fraction thereof, of time so spent.[23] However, the parent or guardian of a child may obtain from the State Registrar, without fee, a statement certifying to the date of birth of the child, when such statement is necessary for admission to school or for the purpose of obtaining employment.[24]

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21. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 21; Code, 1940, V, 169, title 22, sec. 42.
22. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 21.
23. Ibid.
24. Ibid.

Birth Records

AUTAUGA COUNTY

Prattville — (Not surveyed)

BALDWIN COUNTY

Bay Minette

1884-1914, 1917-21	Record, 8 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
Jan. 1921-July 1936	Certificates, 22 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Chron. by year date and alph. thereunder by name of infant.

BARBOUR COUNTY

Clayton

1881-1917	Record, 7 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
1921-36	Certificates, 26 vols. Chron. by date of entry. No index, 1921; indexed alph. by name of infant, 1922-36; separate index, alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 3 file boxes. Alph. by name of infant.

BIBB COUNTY

Centerville

1900-1919	Record, 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
1936--	Summary cards, 4 file boxes. Chron. by year date and alph. thereunder by name of infant.
1930-41	Precinct registrars' records, 22 vols. Record for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

BLOUNT COUNTY

Oneonta — (Not surveyed)

BULLOCK COUNTY

Union Springs — (Not surveyed)

Birth Records

BUTLER COUNTY

Greenville

1894-1919	Record, 18 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Chron. by year date and alph. thereunder by name of infant.
1930-33	Precinct registrars' records, 46 vols. (Including vols. for deaths). Records for each precinct arr. numer. by precinct no. and chron. thereunder by date of entry.

CALHOUN COUNTY

Anniston

1919, 1921-36	Certificates, 35 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by surname of parents.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file cabinet. Alph. by name of infant.

CHAMBERS COUNTY

Lafayette — (Not surveyed)

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Center

1899-1919	Record, 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1919-36	Certificates, 11 vols. Numer. by certificate no.

CHILTON COUNTY

Clanton

1908-19	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
1935--	Summary cards, 2 file boxes. Alph. by name of infant.

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Butler

1881-93	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

Birth Records

CLARKE COUNTY

Grove Hill

1908-36	Record, 12 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1914-19	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
Oct. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by names of parents.

CLAY COUNTY

Ashland

Jan. 4, 1920-Sept. 10, 1937	Precinct registrars' records, 18 vols. Records for each precinct arr. numer. by precinct no. and chron. thereunder by date of entry.
Oct. 2, 1937--	Summary cards, 1400. Alph. by surname of head of family. Includes deaths.

CLEBURNE COUNTY

Heflin — (Not surveyed)

COFFEE COUNTY

Elba

Oct. 11, 1909-Jan. 30, 1916	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1925-33	Certificates, 11 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents.
1936--	Summary cards, 1500 cards. Alph. by surname of parents and chron. thereunder by date of entry.
Feb. 7, 1920-Sept. 19, 1936	Precinct registrars' records, 35 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

Enterprise

Nov. 17, 1907-Sept. 2, 1916	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
Sept. 5, 1916-June 4, 1935	Precinct registrars' records, 30 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

Birth Records

COLBERT COUNTY

Tuscumbia

July 1881- Oct. 1919	Record, 5 vols. Alph. by surname of parents and chron. thereunder by date of entry. Includes deaths, Nov. 1907-Oct. 1919.
Nov. 1919-36	Certificates, 28 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, for delayed certificates. Alph. by surname of parents.

CONECUH COUNTY

Evergreen

1881-1919	Record, 12 vols. (including vols. for precinct registrars' records). Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths.
1920-38	Precinct registrars' records, (no. of vols. not stated, see entry above).

COOSA COUNTY

Rockford

Mar. 14, 1878- Nov. 21, 1955	Certificates (delayed), 1 vol. Chron. by date of certificate.
Aug. 9, 1936- Dec. 30, 1941	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Chron. by date filed.
Feb. 8, 1920- Nov. 23, 1936	Precinct registrars' records, 11 vols. Chron. by date of entry.

COVINGTON COUNTY

Andalusia

1889- Nov. 6, 1920	Record, 39 vols. (including vols for certificates below). Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths, May 1, 1909-Nov. 6, 1920.
1920-36	Certificates, (no. vols. not stated, see entry above). Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 3 file drawers. Alph. by name of infant.

Birth Records

CRENSHAW COUNTY

Luverne — (Not surveyed)

CULLMAN COUNTY

Cullman

1877-1919	Record, 7 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
April 1927-Jan. 1927	Certificates, 23 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Alph. by surname of parents.
Jan. 1937--	Summary cards, 4 file drawers. Chron. by years and alph. thereunder by name of infant.
Jan. 1920--	Precinct registrars' records, 45 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

DALE COUNTY

Ozark

Sept. 12, 1927-Feb. 1, 1937	Certificates, 10 vols. Chron. by year, numer. thereunder by certificate no.
Feb. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of infant.
1919-32	Precinct registrars' records, 16 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

DALLAS COUNTY

Selma

1922--	Record, 204 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Alph. by surname of parents.

DEKALB COUNTY

Fort Payne

1885-1918	Record, 7 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
1919-37	Precinct registrars' records, 50 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

Birth Records

ELMORE COUNTY

Wetumpka

1884-1918	Record, 3 vols. Alph. by name of infant and chron. thereunder by date of entry.
1927-36	Certificates, 17 vols. Alph. by name of infant and chron. thereunder by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Brewton

1909-16	Record, 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents.
1923-36	Certificates, 21 vols. Alph. by surname of parents. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents.
1937--	Summary cards, (quantity not stated).

ETOWAH COUNTY

Gadsden

Dec. 19, 1894-Apr. 22, 1919	Record, 8 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by surname of parents. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths, Jan. 22, 1908-Apr. 22, 1919.
May 8, 1919-July 31, 1936	Certificates, 59 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Alph. by surname of parents.

FAYETTE COUNTY

Fayette

1884-92, 1899-1903, 1908-12	Record, 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths, 1899-1903, 1908-12.
1920-35	Certificates, 11 vols. Numer. by boat no. and numer. thereunder by registration no.
June 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file box. Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths.

Birth Records

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Russellville

Jan. 1916- April 1919	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents.
June 20, 1923- Dec. 31, 1936	Certificates, 27 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents.
Jan. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 3 file drawers. Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths.

GENEVA COUNTY

Geneva

Oct. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file box. Alph. by name of infant.

GREENE COUNTY

Eutaw

Jan. 2, 1912- Dec. 22, 1919	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
Jan. 1, 1920--	Precinct registrars' records, 20 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.
Sept. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 3 file drawers. Numer. by beat no. and alph. thereunder by name of infant.

HALE COUNTY

Greensboro

April 7, 1881- Feb. 12, 1919	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
Sept. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1, 1920- May 4, 1936	Precinct registrars' records, 13 vols. Records of each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

HENRY COUNTY

Abbeville

1931-37	Certificates, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

HOUSTON COUNTY

Dothan

1908-19, 1922--	Certificates, 30 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.

Birth Records

JACKSON COUNTY

Scottsboro — (Not surveyed)

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Birmingham

May 1881--	Record, 75 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.

LAMAR COUNTY

Vernon — (Not surveyed)

LAUDERDALE COUNTY

Florence

1880-1908, 1916-19	Record, 2 vols. Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths, 1916-19.
July 15, 1915- Dec. 18, 1936	Certificates, 24 vols. Alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1936--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.
1920-29	Precinct registrars' records, 46 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Moulton — (Not surveyed)

LEE COUNTY

Opelika

1916-19	Record, 1 vol. Alph. by name of infant. Includes deaths.
1926-36	Certificates, 22 vols. Alph. by name of infant. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant. Includes deaths.

LIMESTONE COUNTY

Athens

1881-98	Record, 4 vols. Alph. by name of infant.
1919-37	Certificates, 29 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of infant.

Birth Records

Athens (cont.)

1937--	Summary cards, 2 file boxes. Alph. by name of infant. Separate index, 1937--. Alph. by surname of parents.

LOWNDES COUNTY

Hayneville

Mar. 8, 1881-Feb. 27, 1905, Jan. 1, 1910-May 29, 1919	Record, 6 vols. Numer. by beat no. and chron. thereunder by date of entry. Includes deaths, Jan. 1, 1910-May 29, 1919.
May 23, 1919-Dec. 31, 1919, July 7, 1928-Dec. 28, 1936	Certificates, 13 vols. Numer. by State Registrar's file no. Separate index, July 7, 1928-Dec. 28, 1936, alph. by name of infant.
Feb. 28, 1937	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1920--	Precinct registrars' records, 31 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

MACON COUNTY

Tuskegee

1928-36	Certificates, 15 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, 1933-36, alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file box and 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.

MADISON COUNTY

Huntsville

1881-1912	Record, 3 vols. Alph. by surname of parents.
1908--	Certificates (copies), 70 vols. Alph. by name of infant.

MARENGO COUNTY

Linden

July 16, 1881-Dec. 31, 1887, 1906-13	Record, 3 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths, 1906-13.
1924-36	Certificates, 22 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of infant.
Mar. 11, 1901--	Delayed certificates, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.

Birth Records

Linden (cont.)

Jan. 6, 1957--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths, Jan. 7, 1959--.
1915--	Precinct registrars' records, 20 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

MARION COUNTY

Hamilton

Mar. 10, 1902-Dec. 27, 1919	Record, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1931-36	Certificates, 9 vols. Numer. by file no. Separate index, alph. by name of infant and surname of parents.
1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of infant.

MARSHALL COUNTY

Guntersville — (Not surveyed)

MOBILE COUNTY

Mobile

1871--	Record, 13 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents.
1871-1908	Certificates, 56 file boxes. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by surname of parents.
1924-29	Certificates (Copies), 1 vol. Chron. by date of issue.
1920--	Precinct registrars' records, 22 vols. Record for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

MONROE COUNTY

Monroeville

July 16, 1881-Dec. 31, 1887, Jan. 4, 1908-Dec. 2, 1919	Record, 4 vols. Alph. by surname of infant and chron. thereunder by date of entry. Includes deaths, Jan. 4, 1908-Dec. 2, 1919.
Sept. 3, 1927-Dec. 31, 1936	Certificates, 8 vols. Numer. by file no.
Jan. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 4 file boxes. Alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1, 1916--	Precinct registrars' records, 1 box. Records for each precint arr. chron. by date of entry.

Birth Records

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery

1908-17	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1932-36	Record (excluding city of Montgomery), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.
1932-36	Record (city of Montgomery), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

MORGAN COUNTY

Decatur

1893-99; 1904-19	Record, 16 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index 1913--, alph. by name of infant. Includes deaths.
1920-37	Certificates, 26 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index 1913--, alph. by name of infant.

PERRY COUNTY

Marion

Sept. 13, 1908-Nov. 1913 Jan. 1910-Dec. 1911; Jan. 1914-July 1919	Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths, Sept. 13, 1908-Nov. 1913.
May 9, 1929-Dec. 28, 1936	Certificates, 11 vols. Chron. by date of issue, certificates numbered consecutively. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 1300 cards. Alph. by name of infant.

PICKENS COUNTY

Carrollton

1903-19	Record, 2 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Includes deaths.
June 1, 1928--	Certificates, 12 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.
1919-27	Precinct registrars' records, 2 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.

Birth Records

PIKE COUNTY

Troy

1881-1919	Record, 10 vols. Alph. by surname of parents and chron. thereunder by date of entry.
1920-36	Precinct registrars' records, 36 vols. Records for each precinct arr. alph. by surname of parents and chron. thereunder by date of entry.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

Wedowee

1886-1905, 1908-19	Record, 8 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
Jan. 1936--	Summary cards, 4 file boxes, alph. by name of infant and chron. thereunder by date of entry. Includes deaths, Jan. 1939--.
1920-38	Precinct registrars' records, 14 vols. (including vols. for deaths). Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

RUSSELL COUNTY

Phenix City

1934-36	Certificates, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry and alph. thereunder by name of infant. Separate index, alph. by name of infant and chron. by date filed.
1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Chron. by year date, numer. thereunder by beat no. and alph. thereunder by name of infant. Separate index, alph. by name of infant and chron. by date of entry.

Seale

June 1913-Aug. 1916	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

SHELBY COUNTY

Columbiana — (Not surveyed)

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Ashville

1893-1920	Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1920--	Precinct registrars' records, 18 vols. Record for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

Birth Records

Pell City

1916-19	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
1916--	Precinct registrars' records, 15 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

SUMTER COUNTY

Livingston

Jan. 1, 1888-July 3, 1891, Jan. 20, 1909-Dec. 30, 1916, May 26, 1917-Dec. 27, 1917	Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
Jan. 1, 1921-June 1922, Oct. 22, 1924-Dec. 23, 1936	Certificates, 21 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of infant.
Jan. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 3 file boxes. Alph. by name of infant.
Feb. 10, 1920--	Precinct registrars' records, 16 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

TALLADEGA COUNTY

Talladega

1897-1919	Record, 4 vols. Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths, 1897-1902.
1920-37	Certificates, 6 vols. Alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY

Dadeville — (Not surveyed)

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

Tuscaloosa

1880-1920	Record, 5 vols. Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths.
1893-1902, 1910-12	Record, 2 vols. Arr. not stated. Includes deaths.
1920--	Certificates, 32 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Includes deaths.

Birth Records

WALKER COUNTY

Jasper

1929-37	Certificates, 12 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of infant.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of infant.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chatom

1908-19	Record, 1 vol. Alph. by surname of parents. Includes deaths.
1927-37	Certificates, 16 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of infant. Includes deaths.
1938--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Arr. not stated. Includes deaths.
1920-36	Precinct registrars' records, 23 vols. (including vols. for deaths). Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

WILCOX COUNTY

Camden

1905-15, 1918-19	Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry.

WINSTON COUNTY

Double Springs

Jan. 1889-June 1919	Record, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Includes deaths.
Dec. 10, 1928-Oct. 10, 1932; Jan. 1935, Dec. 1936	Certificates, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
Jan. 18, 1937--	Summary cards, 2 bundles. Chron. by date of entry and alph. thereunder by name of infant.
Aug. 10, 1935--	Delayed summary cards, 1 bundle. Chron. by date of entry and alph. thereunder by name of infant.
July 1, 1920-Dec. 1936	Precinct registrars' records, 40 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

DEATHS

Specific public death records in Alabama were instituted in 1881. Prior to that year, a limited amount of information concerning deaths of propertied individuals was obtainable, as it still is, from certain records of the probate court (before 1850, of the orphans' court), such as the Will Record, the original wills filed for probate, and the various inventory and settlement records maintained in connection with the division of estates. However, these records rarely yield any information except the date and place of a decedent's death, together with such details as his or her color and sex.

The same act of 1881 which required the county health officer to keep a book to be styled "Register of Births," required this official also to keep a book to be styled "Register of Deaths," in which he was to record, under regulations prescribed by the county board of health, all deaths occurring in the county.[1] In addition, this legislation required the county health officer to "supervise all the certificates of death, to see that they are properly made with the forms of the certificates and the nomenclature of the disease in accordance with the requirements of the county board of health."[2] This law also made it the duty of the county health officer to make out the required certification in all cases of death in which no proper certificate could otherwise be obtained; and it was further provided, in order that such registration of deaths might be adequately carried out, that each physician or other person who may have been in charge of any patient at the time of death should make to the county health officer, within a limit of time to be prescribed by the county board of health, a full report of every such death, specifying the name, age, sex, color, date, place, and cause of death, together with such other details as the county board of health might require.[3]

Additional legislation in 1903 made such reports of deaths periodic, by requiring them to be made within the first five days of each calendar month.[4] Amendatory legislation enacted in 1907, and again in 1915, required the county health officer to deposit each book of the Death Register, when it was filled, in the office of the judge of probate of the county.[5]

The 1915 act further required each county health officer to report to the State Board of Health, on or before the 10th of each calendar

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1. Ala. Acts, 1881, p. 76, sec. 5.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid.
4. Ala. Acts, 1903, p. 499, sec. 11.
5. Ala. Acts, 1907, p. 893, sec. 7; Ala. Acts, 1915, p. 782, sec. 1, subdivision 1.

month, all deaths reported to him as having occurred in his county during the preceding month.[6]

In 1919 the State Board of Health was given charge of the registration of deaths as well as births, through the instrumentality of a State Bureau of Vital Statistics supervised by a State Registrar of Vital Statistics,[7] and the local registrars of vital statistics were given, in cases of death occurring in their precincts, the powers and duties which they exercise today under supervision of the State Registrar of Vital Statistics.[8]

No dead human body may be buried, cremated, or otherwise disposed of, or removed from or into any registration district, or be temporarily held pending further disposition more than 72 hours after death until a permit for such burial, removal, or other disposition has been properly issued by the local registrar of vital statistics for the precinct in which the death occurred or in which the body was found, and such permit shall be issued by the local registrar only after a complete and satisfactory certificate of death has been filed with him.[9]

"Certificates of death shall be upon such forms, and shall contain such matter, as may be provided for from time to time by the rules and regulations of the State Board of Health. The personal statistical particulars shall be authenticated by the signature of the informant, who may be any competent person acquainted with the facts. The statement of facts relating to the disposition of the body shall be signed by the undertaker or person acting as such. The medical certificate shall be made and signed by the physician, if any, last in attendance on the deceased, who shall specify the time in attendance, the time he last saw the deceased alive, and the hour of the day at which death occurred. And he shall further state the cause of death, so as to show the course of disease or sequence of causes resulting in the death, giving first the name of the disease causing death (primary cause) and the contributory (secondary) cause, if any, and the duration of each. Indefinite and unsatisfactory terms, denoting only symptoms of disease or conditions resulting from disease will not be held sufficient for the issuance of a burial or removal permit; and any certificate containing such terms, as defined by the State Registrar, shall be returned to the physician or person making the medical certificate for correction and more definite statement. Causes of death which may be the result of either disease or violence shall be carefully defined; and if from violence,

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6. Ala. Acts, 1915, p. 782, sec. 1, subdivision 6.
7. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivisions 1, 2.
8. Ibid., subdivision 4. For a description of the office of local registrar (or subregistrar) of vital statistics, see essay on "Births," above.
9. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 5.

the means of injury shall be stated, and whether (probably) accidental, suicidal, or homicidal. And for deaths in hospitals or other institutions, or of nonresidents, the physician shall supply personal statistical figures if he is able to do so, and may state where, in his opinion, the disease was contracted."[10]

In the case of a death occurring without medical attendance, it is the duty of the undertaker to notify the local registrar of such death; and the local registrar must thereupon inform the local health officer and refer the case to him for immediate investigation and certification by the issuance of a permit. However, if the local registrar has reason to believe that the death may have resulted from an unlawful act, or from neglect, he shall turn over the case for investigation by the coroner,[11] and "the coroner or other proper officer whose duty it is to hold an inquest on the body of any deceased person, and to make the certificate of death required for a burial permit shall state in his certificate the name of the deceased, cause of death, or if from external cause, (1) the means of death; and (2) whether (probably) accidental, suicidal, or homicidal; and shall in any case furnish such information as may be required by the State Registrar in order properly to classify the death.[12]

"The undertaker, or person acting as undertaker, shall file the certificate of death with the local registrar of the district in which the death occurred and obtain a burial or removal permit prior to any disposition of the body. He shall obtain the required personal statistical particulars from the person best qualified to supply them over the signature and address of his informant. He shall then present this certificate to the attending physician, if any, or to the health officer or coroner, as directed by the local registrar, for the medical certificate of the cause of death and other particulars necessary to complete the record, ... And he shall then state the facts required relative to the date and place of burial or removal, over his signature and with his address, and present the completed certificate to the local registrar in order to obtain a permit for burial, removal, or other disposition of the body. The undertaker shall deliver the burial permit to the person in charge of the place of burial, before interring or otherwise disposing of the body; or shall attach the removal permit to the box containing the body when shipped by any transportation company; such permit to accompany the body to its destination, where, if within the State of Alabama, it shall be delivered to the person in charge of the place of burial."[13]

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10. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 7.
11. Ibid., subdivision 8.
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid., subdivision 9.

Deaths

"If the interment, or other disposition of the body, is to be made within the State, the wording of the burial or removal permit may be limited to the statement by the registrar, and over his signature, that a satisfactory certificate of death having been filed with him, as required by law, permission is granted to inter, remove, or dispose otherwise of the body, stating the name, age, sex, cause of death, and other necessary details upon the form required by the State registrar."[14] Moreover, "No person in charge of any premises on which interments are made shall inter or permit the interment of or other disposition of any human body unless it is accompanied by a burial, removal, or transit permit, as herein provided. And such person shall endorse upon the permit the date of interment over his signature, and shall return all permits so endorsed to the local registrar of his district within ten days from the date of the interment, or within the time fixed by the local ordinance. He shall keep a record of all bodies interred or otherwise disposed of on the premises under his charge, in each case stating the name of the deceased person, place of death, date of burial or disposal, and name and address of undertaker; . . . ."[15] Again, "the undertaker or person acting as such, when burying a body in a cemetery or burial ground having no person in charge, shall sign the burial or removal permit, giving the date of burial, and shall write across the face of the permit the words 'No person in charge' and file the burial or removal permit within ten days with the registrar of the district in which the cemetery is located."[16]

On the tenth day of each month each local registrar transmits to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics all original death certificates registered by him for the preceding month, after these certificates have first been recorded in a book supplied to the local registrar for the purpose by the State Registrar; each such book, when filled, is required to be deposited with the judge of probate of the county to constitute a permanent record of deaths.[17] If no deaths have occurred in his precinct in any given month, the local registrar must report that fact also.[18] The original death certificates sent in by the local registrar to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics are bound and indexed by the latter official and constitute a permanent State record of deaths.[19]

A certified copy of the record of any death in Alabama is obtainable from the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, upon payment by the

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14. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 10.
15. Ibid., subdivision 11.
16. Ibid.
17. Ibid., subdivisions 14, 19.
18. Ibid., subdivision 19.
19. Ibid., subdivision 18.

applicant of a fee of 50 cents.[20] It is provided that any such copy of a death record, when properly certified by the State Registrar of Vital Statistics, shall be prima facie evidence in all courts and places of the facts therein stated; and it is further provided that if after searching the files and records no certified copy is made, the State Registrar is entitled to a fee of 50 cents to be paid by the applicant for each hour, or fraction thereof, of time so spent.[21]

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20. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 21; Code, 1940, V, 169, title 22, sec. 42.
21. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 909, sec. 14, subdivision 21.

Death Records

AUTAUGA COUNTY

Prattville — (Not surveyed)

BALDWIN COUNTY

Bay Minette

1884-1914, 1917-21	Record (See under Birth Records).
1921-36	Certificates, 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Chron. by year date and alph. thereunder by name of decedent.

BARBOUR COUNTY

Clayton

1881-1917	Record (See under Birth Records).
1922-36	Certificates, 14 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1937--	Summary cards, 2 file boxes. Alph. by name of decedent.

BIBB COUNTY

Centerville

1900-1919	(See under Birth Records).
1936--	Summary cards, 2 file boxes. Alph. by name of decedent.

BLOUNT COUNTY

Oneonta — (Not surveyed)

BULLOCK COUNTY

Union Springs — (Not surveyed)

BUTLER COUNTY

Greenville

1894-1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Chron. by year date and alph. thereunder by name of decedent.

Death Records

Greenville (cont.)

1920-33	Precinct registrars' records, (no. vols. not stated, see under Birth Records). Numer. by precinct no. and chron. thereunder by date of entry.

CALHOUN COUNTY

Anniston

1919, 1921-36	Certificates, 20 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by surname of parents.
1937--	Summary cards, 5 file drawers. Alph. by name of infant.

CHAMBERS COUNTY

Lafayette	(Not surveyed)

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Center

Nov. 1908-Aug. 1912	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.
Jan. 1929-July 1936	Certificates, 4 vols. Numer. by certificate no.

CHILTON COUNTY

Clanton

1908-19	Record (See under Birth Records).
1935--	Summary cards, 1 file box. Alph. by name of decedent.

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Butler

1881-June 1893	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

CLARKE COUNTY

Grove Hill

1908-36	Record, 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1914-19	Record (See under Birth Records).
Oct. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of decedent.

Death Records

CLAY COUNTY

Ashland

1920--	Record, 13 vols. Numer. by precinct no. and chron. thereunder by date of entry.
Oct. 2, 1937--	Summary cards (See under Birth Records).

CLEBURNE COUNTY

Heflin — (Not surveyed)

COFFEE COUNTY

Elba

1925-33	Certificates, 9 vols. Chron. by date of entry, certificates numbered consecutively. No index 1925-26; separate index, alph. by name of decedent, 1927-33.
1936--	Summary cards, 800 cards. Alph. by name of decedent.
1920-36	Precinct registrars' records, 16 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

Enterprise

Nov. 26, 1907-May 3, 1916	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.
May 7, 1916-July 17, 1925	Precinct registrars' records, 17 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

COLBERT COUNTY

Tuscumbia

July 1881-Oct. 1907	Record, 1 vol. Alph. by surname of decedent and chron. thereunder by date of entry.
Nov. 1907-Oct. 1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
1919-36	Certificates, 13 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of decedent.

Death Records

CONECUH COUNTY

Evergreen

1881-1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
1920-38	Precinct registrars' records (See under Birth Records).

COOSA COUNTY

Rockford

Nov. 24, 1935--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Chron. by date filed.
Feb. 28, 1920-36	Precinct registrars' records, 9 vols. Chron. by date of entry.

COVINGTON COUNTY

Andalusia

May 1, 1909-Nov. 6, 1920	Record (See under Birth Records).
1922-36	Certificates, 12 vols. Chron. by date of entry, 1922-29, and numer. by certificate no. 1930-36. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of decedent.

CRENSHAW COUNTY

Luverne — (Not surveyed)

CULLMAN COUNTY

Cullman

Jan. 1887-Dec. 1919	Record, 7 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
Mar. 1927-Dec. 1936	Certificates, 8 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.
Feb. 1937--	Summary cards, 4 file drawers. Chron. by years, and numer. thereunder by beat no., and alph. thereunder by name of decedent.

Death Records

DALE COUNTY

Ozark

Sept. 12, 1927-Dec. 23, 1936	Certificates, 5 vols. Chron. by year, numer. by certificate no.
1936--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of decedent.
1920-32	Precinct registrars' records, 7 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

DALLAS COUNTY

Selma

1922--	Record, 169 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.

DEKALB COUNTY

Fort Payne

1885-1918	Record (See under Birth Records).
1919-37	Precinct registrars' records, 21 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

ELMORE COUNTY

Wetumpka

1927-36	Certificates, 9 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Numer. by beat no. and alph. thereunder by name of decedent.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Brewton

1909-17	Record, 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent, 1907-17; separate index, alph. by name of decedent, 1923-37.
1923-37	Certificates, 8 vols. Alph. by name of decedent. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, (quantity not stated).

ETOWAH COUNTY

Gadsden

Jan. 10, 1898-	Record, 1 vol. Numer. by precinct no. and chron.

Death Records

Gadsden (cont.)

Dec. 21, 1907	thereunder by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent; separate index, alph. by name of decedent, Jan. 10, 1898-Apr. 22, 1919.
Jan. 22, 1908-Apr. 22, 1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
May 16, 1919-July 31, 1936	Certificates, 37 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.

FAYETTE COUNTY

Fayette

1899-1903, Apr. 1908-Dec. 1912	Record (See under Birth Records).
June 1937--	Summary cards (See under Birth Records).
1920-May 31, 1937	Precinct registrars' records, 7 vols. Records for each precinct arr. numer. by registration no.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Russellville

Jan. 1, 1930-Dec. 31, 1936	Certificates, 4 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.
Jan. 1, 1937--	Summary cards (See under Birth Records).

GENEVA COUNTY

Geneva

Oct. 1, 1937--	Certificates, 1 file box. Alph. by name of decedent.

GREENE COUNTY

Eutaw

June 1, 1909-Jan. 1, 1912	Record, 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. For 1912-19 (See under Birth Record).
Jan. 1, 1920--	Precinct registrars' records, 8 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.
Sept. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of decedent.

Death Records

HALE COUNTY

Greensboro

Apr. 7, 1881- Feb. 12, 1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
Sept. 25, 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of decedent.
Jan. 1, 1920- May 31, 1936	Precinct registrars' records, 18 vols. Records of each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

HENRY COUNTY

Abbeville

1930-36	Certificates, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

HOUSTON COUNTY

Dothan

1908-19, 1922--	Certificates, 30 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.

JACKSON COUNTY

Scottsboro — (Not surveyed)

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Birmingham

1881--	Record, 75 vols. Chron. by years, and alph. thereunder by name of decedent. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent, May 1, 1881--.

LAMAR COUNTY

Vernon — (Not surveyed)

LAUDERDALE COUNTY

Florence

Jan. 22, 1890- Apr. 10, 1920	Record, 1 vol. For 1916-19, also see under Birth Records. Chron. by date of entry, Jan. 22, 1890-Feb. 28, 1908; alph. by name of decedent, May 5, 1908-Apr. 10, 1920.
1916-19	Record (See under Birth Records).
Oct. 2, 1920- Dec. 27, 1936	Certificates, 10 vols. Alph. by name of decedent.

Death Records

Florence (cont.)

1936--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of decedent.
Feb. 13, 1920-May 17, 1932	Precinct registrars' records, 36 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Moulton	(Not surveyed)

LEE COUNTY

Opelika

1916-19	Record (See under Birth Records).
1926-37	Certificates, 12 vols. Alph. by name of decedent. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards (See under Birth Records).

LIMESTONE COUNTY

Athens

1881-98	Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.
1919-Jan. 1937	Certificates, 14 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.
Feb. 1937--	Summary cards, 2 file boxes. Alph. by name of decedent.

LOWNDES COUNTY

Hayneville

Apr. 15, 1881-Feb. 14, 1905	Record, 1 vol. Numer. by beat no. and chron. thereunder by date of entry.
Jan. 1, 1910-May 29, 1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
May 23-Dec. 31, 1919, Apr. 3, 1928-Dec. 30, 1936	Certificates, 7 vols. Numer. by State Registrar's file no. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
Jan. 22, 1937	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of decedent.

Death Records

Hayneville (cont.)

Jan. 1, 1920	Precinct registrars' records, 32 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

MACON COUNTY

Tuskegee

1928-36	Certificates, 10 vols. Numer. by file no. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of decedent.

MADISON COUNTY

Huntsville

1881-94, 1908-18	Record, 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent, 1881-94; no index, 1908-18.
1919-36	Certificates, 28 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of decedent.

MARENGO COUNTY

Linden

1906-13	Record (See under Birth Records).
1924-36	Certificates, 12 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.
Jan. 6, 1937--	Summary cards, 2 file boxes. Alph. by name of decedent. See under Birth Records, Jan. 7, 1939--.
1913--	Precinct registrars' records, 12 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

MARION COUNTY

Hamilton

Sept. 9, 1902-Nov. 27, 1919	Record, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1931-36	Certificates, 3 vols. Numer. by file no. Separate index. Alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Chron. by years and alph. thereunder by name of decedent.

Death Records

MARSHALL COUNTY

Guntersville — (Not surveyed)

MOBILE COUNTY

Mobile

1820-- — Record, 30 vols. Chron. by date of entry. No index, 1820-42, separate index, alph. by name of decedent.

1876-- — Certificates, 52 vols. and 75 boxes. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.

1914-- — Certificates and transit permits, 8 file boxes. Alph. by name of decedent.

1920-- — Precinct registrars' records, 62 vols. No obvious arr.

MONROE COUNTY

Monroeville

Jan. 4, 1908-Dec. 2, 1919 — Record (See under Birth Records).

Sept. 1, 1937-Dec. 29, 1936 — Certificates, 4 vols. Numer. by file no.

Jan. 2, 1937-- — Summary cards, 4 file boxes. Alph. by name of decedent.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery

1908-12 — Record, 1 vol. Arr. (not stated).

1932-56 — Record (excluding city of montgomery), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

1932-56 — Record (city of Montgomery), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

MORGAN COUNTY

Decatur

1893-99, 1904-19 — Record (See under Birth Records).

1920-37 — Certificates, 13 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, 1913--. Alph. by name of decedent.

Death Records

PERRY COUNTY

Marion

Sept. 13, 1908-Nov. 1913	Record (See under Birth Records).
1930-36	Certificates, 5 vols. Chron. by dates of certificates; certificates numbered consecutively. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of decedent.

PICKENS COUNTY

Carrollton

1903-27	Record (See under Birth Records).
1928-36	Certificates, 6 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file box. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.

PIKE COUNTY

Troy

1881-1919	Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1920-36	Certificates, 18 vols. Chron. by date of entry.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

Wedowee

1886-1905, 1908-19	Record (See under Birth Records).
Apr. 6, 1935--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Chron. by years, and numer. thereunder by certificate no. See under Birth Records, Jan. 1939--.
1920-38	Precinct registrars' record, (quantity not stated, see under Birth Records). Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

RUSSELL COUNTY

Phenix City

1934-36	Certificates, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.

Death Records

Phenix (cont.)

1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Chron. by years, numer. thereunder by beat no. and alph. thereunder by name of decedent.

Scale

June 1913-Aug. 1916	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

SHELBY COUNTY

Columbiana — (Not surveyed)

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Pell City

1896-1919	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. See under Birth Records, 1916-1919.
1916--	Record (See under Birth Records).

SUMTER COUNTY

Livingston

Apr. 1, 1881-Nov. 28, 1919	Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
Jan. 5, 1921-Oct. 15, 1936	Certificates, 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
Jan. 5, 1937--	Summary cards, 1 file box. Alph. by name of decedent.
Dec. 31, 1919--	Precinct registrars' record, 22 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

TALLADEGA COUNTY

Talladega

1897-1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
1920-37	Certificates, 11 vols. Alph. by name of decedent.
1937--	Summary cards, 1 file drawer. Alph. by name of decedent.

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY

Dadeville — (Not surveyed)

Death Records

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

Tuscaloosa

1880-1920	Record (See under Birth Records).
1893-1902, 1910-12	Record (See under Birth Records).
1920--	Certificates (See under Birth Records).

WALKER COUNTY

Jasper

1890-1907	Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of decedent.
Jan. 1932-Dec. 1936	Certificates, 6 vols. Numer. by certificate no. Separate index, alph. by name of decedent.
Jan. 1, 1937--	Summary cards, 2 file drawers. Alph. by name of decedent.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chatom

1908-19	Record (See under Birth Records).
1927-37	Certificates (See under Birth Records).
1938--	Summary cards (See under Birth Records).
1920-36	Precinct registrars' records, (quantity not stated, see under Birth Records).

WILCOX COUNTY

Camden

1905-15, 1918-19	Record, 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry.

WINSTON COUNTY

Double Springs

Jan. 1889-June 1919	Record (See under Birth Records).
1928-32, 1935-36	Certificates, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
Oct. 26, 1936--	Summary cards, 2 bundles. Chron. by years, and alph. thereunder by name of decedent.
July 1919-Nov. 1928	Precinct registrars' record, 29 vols. Records for each precinct arr. chron. by date of entry.

MARRIAGES

In Alabama persons desiring to enter into a contract of marriage have always been required to secure a license therefor. Marriage licenses were issued by the register (clerk) of the orphans' court of county in which the female resided between 1805 and 1850.[1] In the latter year, the orphans' court in each county was superseded by the probate court,[2] and the issuance of marriage licenses became, and still is, a function of the judge of probate in each county.[3]

To be eligible to enter into a marriage contract in Alabama, the man must be at least 17 and the woman at least 14;[4] and if the man be under 21, or the woman be under 18 and as yet unmarried, before the license may be issued the judge of probate is required to obtain the consent of the parents or guardians of such minors, and also to take a bond in the sum of $200, payable to the State, to indemnify the judge in case it should develop that either party is in fact too young to be eligible to contract marriage.[5] Where such improper issuance of a marriage license is established, the probate judge issuing the same forfeits $200 to the parent of the minor involved, or to such minor's guardian for the use of his ward, to be collectible by suit.[6]

In 1919 a further condition of eligibility was imposed upon the male applicant for a marriage license. By the terms of legislation then enacted, it is unlawful for any judge of probate to issue a marriage license unless the male applicant therefor has filed with the judge, at least 15 days earlier, a certificate signed by a physician licensed to practice in Alabama and stating that such applicant has been found, after a thorough examination, to be free from any venereal disease.[7] A judge of probate who issues a marriage license without having first received such certificate of the prospective groom's antenuptial examination, becomes guilty of a misdemeanor and must, upon conviction, be fined not less than $50 nor more than $100, or be sentenced to hard labor for the county for a period of not more than six months, one or both in the discretion of the court trying his case.[8]

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1. Harry Toulmin, Esq., A Digest of the Laws of the State of Alabama, p. 576, secs. 1, 5.
2. Ala. Acts, 1849-50, pp. 24-36.
3. Ibid., sec. 9; Code, 1940, VI, 192, title 34, sec. 9.
4. Code, 1940, VI, 190, title 34, sec. 4.
5. Ibid., 193, title 34, sec. 10; Crook, Judge, &c. v. Webb, 125 Ala. 457.
6. Code, 1940, VI, 196, title 34, sec. 15.
7. Ala. Acts, 1919, p. 169, secs. 1, 2.
8. Ibid., sec. 3.

Marriages

Early territorial legislation authorized "any one of the territorial judges, any ordained minister of the gospel, and any justice of the peace" within his county, to solemnize the rite of matrimony for duly licensed parties.[9] Current legislation gives this authority to any judge of the supreme, appellate or circuit courts and, within each county, to the probate judge, his clerk, and any justice of the peace.[10] The officiant has always been required to transmit to the judge of probate of the county in which the marriage is performed, a certificate of the same for recording;[11] current statute prescribes that such transmittal must be made within one month.[12]

The judge of probate of each Alabama county has always been required to keep a marriage record, in which are recorded the license and the marriage certificate.[13] In addition, current statute prescribes that the consent of the parent or guardian, when one of the contracting parties is a minor, must also be recorded in the marriage record.[14]

Since 1907 the judge of probate in each county has been required, within the first five days of each calendar month, to report to the State Board of Health, on forms supplied by this board, all marriages that have occurred within his county during the preceding month;[15] and since 1936, further legislation has required the judge to include with this monthly report to the State Board of Health, all the original marriage licenses and certificates therein reported.[16]

A copy of a marriage certificate or other marriage document filed and recorded in any Alabama county, duly certified, may be obtained from the judge of probate of the county, upon payment by the applicant of a fee of 50 cents.[17]

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9. Toulmin, op. cit., p. 576, secs. 2, 7.
10. Code, 1940, VI, 192, title 34, secs. 6, 7; Ala. Acts, 1892, p. 1190, sec. 1, subdivision 3.
11. Toulmin, op. cit., p. 576, secs. 2, 7.
12. Code, 1940, VI, 196, title 34, sec. 12.
13. Toulmin, op. cit., p. 576, secs. 2, 7.
14. Code, 1940, VI, 195-196, title 34, secs. 11-12.
15. Ala. Acts, 1907, p. 393, sec. 17.
16. Ala. Acts, 1936, pp. 215-216, sec. 1.
17. Code, 1940: III, 275-277, title 11, sec. 29; V, 184, title 22, sec. 92.

Marriage Records

AUTAUGA COUNTY

Prattville — (Not surveyed)

BALDWIN COUNTY

Bay Minette

June 1810-April 1836, July 1845--	Record (white), 11 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Jan. 1866--	Record (Negro), 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Jan. 1903-July 1936	License stubs, 21 vols. Chron. by date issued.
Aug. 1936--	Applications for license, 2 file boxes. Alph. by name of applicant.
1903--	Licenses, 14 file drawers. Chron. by date issued and alph. thereunder by name of male.

BARBOUR COUNTY

Clayton

1838--	Record, 23 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Jan. 1914-July 1936	Licenses, 3 file boxes. Chron. by date issued.

Eufaula — (Not surveyed)

BIBB COUNTY

Centerville

Dec. 12, 1820--	Record, 19 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male, Dec. 12, 1820-June 6, 1881; by name of each party, June 26, 1881--.
Aug. 25, 1823-July 1936	Licenses, 21 file boxes. Chron. by date issued.

BLOUNT COUNTY

Oneonta

1820-43, 1857--	Record, 30 vols. Chron. by date of entry. No index, 1820-43, 1866-71; indexed alph. by name of each party, 1861-65, 1872--.

Marriage Records

Oneonta (cont.)

Sept. 1921-22, 1925, 1927-28, 1930-31, 1934-July 1936	Licenses, 1 file box. Chron. by date issued.
1919-20, 1923, 1926-30, 1933-1935	Physicians' certificates of antenuptial examination of male, 1 file box. Chron. by date filed.

BULLOCK COUNTY

Union Springs

Feb. 4, 1867--	Record (white), 9 vols. Chron. by date licenses returned.
Feb. 4, 1867--	Record (Negro), 27 vols. Chron. by date licenses returned.

BUTLER COUNTY

Greenville

1853-98	Record (white and Negro), 16 vols. Chron. by date of entry. No index, 4 vols., (dates not reported); indexed alph. by name of each party, 12 vols., (dates not reported).
Aug. 18, 1898-Aug. 1, 1936	Record (white), 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 18, 1898-Aug. 1, 1936	Record (Negro), 9 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1936--	Applications for license, 2 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

CALHOUN COUNTY

Anniston

Sept. 15, 1834--	Record, 22 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1916--	Applications for license, 16 file drawers and 6 vols. Chron. by date filed. No index 1916-Feb. 1930, Aug. 1, 1936--; indexed alph. by name of each party, Mar. 1930-July 1936.
Jan. 1, 1907-Dec. 31, 1910, Jan. 1, 1916-Dec. 31, 1936	Licenses, 11 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.

Marriage Records

CHAMBERS COUNTY

Lafayette

April 23, 1853--	Record (white), 16 vols. Chron. by date of entry. No index, vol. 1; indexed alph. by name of each party, vols. 2-16.
Sept. 15, 1865--	Record (Negro), 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Jan. 7, 1917-Dec. 28, 1923, Dec. 1, 1926--	Applications for license (white), 7 vols. and 1 file drawer. Chron. by date filed.
Sept. 14, 1916-Oct. 10, 1919, Sept. 3, 1921--	Applications for license (Negro), 9 vols. and 1 file drawer. Chron. by date filed.
Jan. 1, 1895-Jan. 29, 1911, 1926-36	Licenses (white), 2 file boxes. Chron. by date issued.
1895-1908, 1911-12, 1927-July 1936	Licenses (Negro), 2 file boxes. Chron. by date issued.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Center

May 1882-June 1936	Record, 13 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

CHILTON COUNTY

Clanton

1870--	Record, 18 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1896-1936	Licenses, 23 file boxes. Chron. by date issued.
1920--	Physicians' certificates of antenuptial examination of male, 5 file boxes. Chron. by date filed.

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Butler

1871--	Record, 19 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party; also separate index, alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Butler (cont.)

1919--	Applications for license; and physicians' certificates of antenuptial examination of male. 5 file drawers and 1 box. No obvious arr.
1871-1936	Licenses, 12 file drawers. No obvious arr.

CLARKE COUNTY

Grove Hill

1813--	Record, 39 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1919--	Physicians' certificates of antenuptial examination of male, 10 bundles. Chron. by date of entry.

CLAY COUNTY

Ashland

Nov. 2, 1872--	Record, 19 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
May 20, 1909-July 26, 1936	License stubs, 20 vols. Chron. by date of application.
Aug. 1936--	Applications for license, 1 vol. Chron. by date of application.
Jan. 1, 1884-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 12 file drawers and 13 bundles. No obvious arr.

CLEBURNE COUNTY

Heflin — (Not surveyed)

COFFEE COUNTY

Elba

1866-88	Record (white and Negro), 3 vols. Chron by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1889-July 31, 1936	Record (white), 7 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1889-July 31, 1936	Record (Negro), 4 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 1 vol. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Elba (cont.)

Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 1 vol. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1910-Aug. 1, 1936	License stubs, 24 vols. Chron. by date issued.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Applications for license, 1 vol. Chron. by date of application.

Enterprise

Nov. 22, 1907-Aug. 7, 1937	Record (transcripts of licenses and certificates, white). Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Nov. 22, 1907-Aug. 7, 1937	Record (transcripts of licenses and certificates, Negro). Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 21, 1937--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 1 vol. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 21, 1937--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 1 vol. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Oct. 14, 1911-Aug. 14, 1937	License stubs, 30 vols. Chron. by date issued.
Aug. 21, 1937--	Applications for license, 1 vol. Chron. by date of application.

COLBERT COUNTY

Tuscumbia

1867--	Record, 19 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1910-36	License stubs, 26 vols. Chron. by date issued.
Aug. 1936--	Applications for license, 2 clip binders. Alph. by name of male.
1910-36	Licenses, 1 bundle, 1 storage shelf, and 3 file drawers. Chron. by date of entry.

Marriage Records

CONECUH COUNTY

Evergreen

1866--	Record (transcripts of licenses), 20 vols. (Arr. not stated.) Indexed alph. by name of male.
1904-36	Licenses, 14 file boxes. Chron. by date filed.

COOSA COUNTY

Rockford

1834-1900	Applications for license (white and Negro), 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry.
1900-1936	Licenses (white), 5 vols. Alph. by name of male.
1900-1936	Licenses (Negro), 4 vols. Chron. by date of application. Indexed alph. by name of male.

COVINGTON COUNTY

Andalusia

1895-1914	Record (white and Negro), 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1908--	Record (white), 9 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1914--	Record (Negro), 4 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1923--	Applications for license, 38 file boxes. Chron. by date of application.
Nov. 8, 1895-June 26, 1936	Licenses, 70 file boxes. Chron. by date of entry.

CRENSHAW COUNTY

Luverne

April 2, 1882--	Record, 15 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

CULLMAN COUNTY

Cullman

Mar. 21, 1877-July 31, 1936	Record (transcripts of licenses), 25 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Cullman (cont.)

Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents), 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1877-1930, 1932-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 25 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.

DALE COUNTY

Ozark

1884- June 30, 1904	Record (white and Negro), 5 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party; also separate index, alph. by name of each party.
July 1, 1904--	Record (white), 7 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
July 1, 1904--	Record (Negro), 4 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party; also separate index, alph. by name of each party.

DALLAS COUNTY

Selma

1818--	Record (white), 16 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
June 1, 1871--	Record (Negro), 40 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Applications for license, 8 bundles and 1 file box. Chron. by date issued.
1872- Aug. 1936	Licenses, 2 file boxes. Chron. by date filed.

DEKALB COUNTY

Fort Payne

1836-1936	Record, 21 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party; also separate index, alph. by name of each party, 1933-36.
1836-1937	Licenses, 500 files. No obvious arr.

ELMORE COUNTY

Wetumpka

1867--	Record (white), 18 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Wetumpka (cont.)

1867-- Record (Negro), 13 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Brewton

1879-1938 Record (white), 16 vols. Alph. by name of each party.

1879-1938 Record (Negro), 9 vols. Alph. by name of each party.

ETOWAH COUNTY

Gadsden

Mar. 26, 1867-- Record, 49 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.

FAYETTE COUNTY

Fayette

1866-- Record, 12 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Aug. 1936-- Applications for license, 3 bundles and 1 file drawer. Chron. by date filed.

1930-Aug. 31, 1936 Licenses, 2 file boxes and 8 bundles. Chron. by date licenses returned.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Russellville

1890-- Record, 12 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

1890-1935 Licenses and bonds, 20 file drawers. Chron. by date licenses returned.

1925-- Physicians' certificates of antenuptial examination of male, 10 bundles. No obvious arr.

GENEVA COUNTY

Geneva

1898-- Record (white), 19 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of male; also separate index, alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Geneva (cont.)

1898--	Applications for license (white), 6 vols. and 1 file drawer. Chron. by date of application. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
1898--	Record (Negro), 10 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of male; also separate index, alph. by name of each party.
1898--	Applications for license (Negro), 4 vols. and 1 file drawer. Chron. by date of application. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
1898-Aug. 12, 1936	Reports, quarterly (white), 3 file boxes. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
1898-Aug. 12, 1936	Reports, quarterly (Negro), 2 file boxes. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
1898-Aug. 12, 1936	Licenses (white), 5 file boxes. Chron. by date filed. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
1898-Aug. 12, 1936	Licenses (Negro), 3 file boxes. Chron. by date of entry. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.

GREENE COUNTY

Eutaw

Oct. 7, 1823-June 2, 1936	Record (license and bond, white), 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Jan. 9, 1849, Aug. 1, 1936	Record (license and surety bond, Negro), 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Aug. 8, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Aug. 8, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Oct. 1, 1936--	Applications for license, 52 envelopes. Chron. by date of application.
Feb. 2, 1912-Apr. 6, 1936	Licenses, 238 envelopes. Chron. by date filed.

Marriage Records

HALE COUNTY

Greensboro

Mar. 31, 1867- July 31, 1936	Record (white), 4 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Mar. 23, 1867- Aug. 2, 1936	Record (Negro), 10 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 1 vol. Chron. by date of application. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 2 vols. Chron. by date of application. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Nov. 1920- July 1936	License stubs (white), 3 vols. Chron. by date issued.
Mar. 30, 1867- Dec. 20, 1892	Applications for license and surety bonds (white), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

HENRY COUNTY

Abbeville

1823--	Record, 22 vols. Chron. by date licenses returned. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1905-35	Licenses, 7 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.

HOUSTON COUNTY

Dothan

1903--	Record (white), 13 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1903--	Record (Negro), 7 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1908--	Record (white), 30 vols. Chron. by date issued.
1911--	Record (Negro), 11 vols. Chron. by date issued.
1903-36	Licenses, 17 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.

JACKSON COUNTY

Scottsboro (Not surveyed)

Marriage Records

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Birmingham

1823-1936	Record (white), 138 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1882-1936	Record (Negro), 141 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Bessemer Division

1916-36	Record (white), 13 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1916-36	Record (Negro), 17 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.

LAMAR COUNTY

Vernon

Aug. 26, 1867-Sept. 12, 1936	Record, 21 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1908, 1917-1921, 1923-1936	Licenses, 28 boxes. Chron. by date issued, with Licenses numbered consecutively. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

LAULERDALE COUNTY

Florence

1820-July 31, 1936	Record, 41 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1867-70	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents), 2 vols. Chron. by date of application. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Dec. 1915-Dec. 1921, Jan. 1927-July 31, 1936	License stubs, 9 vols. Chron. by date issued.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Applications for license, 1 file drawer. Chron. by date filed.

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Marriage Records

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Moulton

May 1818--	Record, 25 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 12, 1936--	Applications for license, 2 file drawers. Chron. by date issued.
May 22, 1818-Aug. 12, 1936	Licenses, 41 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.

LEE COUNTY

Opelika

1867-1935	Record (white), 8 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1867-1935	Record (Negro), 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1936	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1923-July 31, 1936	License stubs, 35 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

LIMESTONE COUNTY

Athens

June 1832-Nov. 1862, Sept. 1868-July 31, 1936	Record, 21 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1936--	Applications for license, 1 bundle. Chron. by date filed.
1888-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 48 bundles. Chron. by date filed.
1908-36	Surety bonds, 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry.

LOWNDES COUNTY

Hayneville

Aug. 21, 1830--	Record (white), 6 vols. Numer. by license no. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Hayneville (cont.)

1865--	Record (Negro), 15 vols. Numer. by license no. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Feb. 17, 1931-July 31, 1936	License stubs, 8 vols. Numer. by license no.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Applications for license. Chron. by date filed.
Apr. 9, 1902-July 9, 1911	Affidavits for license, 2 vols. Chron. by date filed.
Aug. 18, 1926-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 11 pigeon holes. Chron. by date filed.

MACON COUNTY

Tuskegee

1854-July 31, 1936	Record (white), 9 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1858-July 31, 1936	Record (Negro), 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 1 vol. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 1 vol. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1924-36	Applications for license, 76 bundles. Chron. by date filed.
Jan. 1, 1900-1902, 1907-9, 1924-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 2 file boxes and 27 bundles. Chron. by date filed.

MADISON COUNTY

Huntsville

Apr. 3, 1809-Sept. 30, 1931	Record (copy of original volumes), 3 vols. Numer. by license no. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
Feb. 14, 1820-Dec. 29, 1843	Record (copy of original volumes, second series), 2 vols. Numer. by license no. Feb. 14, 1820-June 5, 1826; no obvious arr. Dec. 22, 1826-Dec. 29, 1843. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Huntsville (cont.)

Feb. 14, 1820-Aug. 6, 1828, Nov. 5, 1831-Jan. 12, 1836, Sept. 25, 1843-July 31, 1956	Record, 64 vols. Numer. by license no., Feb. 14, 1820-Aug. 6, 1828, Nov. 5, 1831-Jan. 12, 1836, Sept. 25, 1843-Dec. 12, 1871; chron. by date issued, Dec. 15, 1871-July 31, 1956. Indexed alph. by name of each party, Nov. 5, 1831-Jan. 12, 1836, Sept. 25, 1843-Aug. 22, 1865, Jan. 29, 1885-Nov. 24, 1886, May 18, 1920- April 20, 1921; separate index, alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1956--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 4 vols. Chron. by date issued. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1956--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 2 vols. Chron. by date issued. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1956-May 31, 1939	Applications for license, 5 file boxes. Chron. by date of application.
June 1, 1939--	Applications for license (white), 1 file box. Chron. by date of application.
June 1, 1939--	Applications for license (Negro), 1 file box. Chron. by date of application.
Jan. 29, 1865-July 31, 1956	Licenses, 4 storage boxes and 3 file boxes. Chron. by date issued Jan. 29, 1865-Dec. 30, 1933; numer. by vol. and page where recorded in Marriage Record, Jan. 6, 1934-July 31, 1936.

MARENGO COUNTY

Linden

1818-July 31, 1956	Record, 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1818--	Record, 24 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1956--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1902-37	Applications for license, 30 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.
1902-37	Licenses, 30 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.

Marriage Records

MARION

Hamilton

Jan. 5, 1887--	Record, 16 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

MARSHALL COUNTY

Guntersville

1836--	Record, 28 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1836-1936	Licenses, 64 file boxes. Chron. by date filed. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.

MOBILE COUNTY

Mobile

1823-24, 1827-30, 1835--	Record (white), 54 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1824-79, 1918-19	Marriage contracts, 10 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1865--	Record (Negro), 32 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party. Separate index, alph. by name of each party.
1831-61	Surety Bonds, 8 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1813-33	Surety Bonds, 2 file boxes. Chron. by date filed. Separate index, alph. by name of groom.
1833-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 22 file boxes and 27 pigeon holes. Chron. by date issued and thereunder by color.
1918--	Record (Thomas B. Allen, J. P., Precinct 9), 4 vols. Chron. by date rites performed.
1786	Marriage contract, 1 document. Drawn up in French; untranslated.

MONROE COUNTY

Monroeville

July 30, 1833- July 31, 1936	Record (white), 10 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Monroeville (cont.)

Apr. 1908-Feb. 1917	Record, 1 vol. Alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 1 vol. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 1 vol. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 15, 1914-May 31, 1938	Applications for license, 23 file boxes. Chron. by date issued.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery

1817-1936	Record (white), 30 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1849-1936	Record (Negro), 50 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.

MORGAN COUNTY

Decatur

1821-1936	Record (white), 27 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1865-1936	Record (Negro), 11 vols. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1865-72	Record (white and Negro), 1 vol. (Arr. not stated). Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1923-36	Licenses, 10 file boxes. (Arr. not stated).

PERRY COUNTY

Marion

Apr. 11, 1820--	Record, 17 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of male.

PICKENS COUNTY

Carrollton

1876--	Record (white), 9 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1876--	Record (Negro), 7 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of male.

Marriage Records

Carrollton (cont.)

1911-36	Licenses, 9 file boxes. Chron. by date filed.
1918--	Applications for license, 3 file boxes. Chron. by date of application.

PIKE COUNTY

Troy

1833-1936	Record (white), 21 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1833-1936	Record (Negro), 15 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1896-1900	License stubs, 1 vol. Chron. by date issued, with stubs numbered consecutively.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

Wedowee

Dec. 6, 1896--	Record, 16 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Nov. 5, 1898- July 31, 1936	Licenses, 1 box and 5 file boxes. No obvious arr.
Sept. 30, 1938--	Applications for license (white), 1 vol. Alph. by name of male.
Sept. 30, 1938--	Applications for license (Negro), 1 vol. Alph. by name of male.

RUSSELL COUNTY

Phenix City

June 18, 1928- July 31, 1938	Record (white, serving northern division), 8 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
July 8, 1928- July 31, 1938	Record (Negro, serving northern division), 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed. alph. by name of each party.
Oct. 1, 1938--	Applications for license (white and Negro, serving northern division), 1 box. Chron. by date issued.
June 18, 1928- July 31, 1936	Licenses (white, serving northern division), 7 boxes. Chron. by date issued.

Marriage Records

Phenix City (cont.)

July 26, 1928-July 31, 1936	Licenses (Negro, serving northern division), 4 boxes. Chron. by date issued.

Seale

Aug. 1834-Sept. 1928	Record (serving whole county), 33 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Oct. 1, 1928-July 31, 1938	Record (white, serving southern division), 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Oct. 1, 1928-July 31, 1938	Record (Negro, serving southern division), 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Nov. 4, 1879-Sept. 29, 1928	Licenses (white, serving whole county), 54 bundles and 1 box. Chron. by date issued.
Nov. 4, 1879-Sept. 29, 1928	Licenses (Negro, serving whole county), 62 bundles and 1 box. Chron. by date issued.
Oct. 1, 1928-July 31, 1938	Licenses (white, serving southern division), 2 boxes. Chron. by date issued.
Oct. 1, 1928-July 31, 1938	Licenses (Negro, serving southern division), 2 boxes. Chron. by date issued.

SHELBY COUNTY

Columbiana — (Not surveyed)

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Ashville

1819--	Record, 16 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1906-36	Licenses (white), 7 file boxes. Chron. by date filed.
1920-36	Licenses (Negro), 2 file boxes. Chron. by date filed.

Pell City

1903-16	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1916-36	Record (white), 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Pell City (cont.)

1916-36	Record (Negro), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

SUMTER COUNTY

Livingston

April 29, 1833- Dec. 31, 1865, Feb. 2, 1870- July 31, 1936	Record (white), 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 26, 1865- Jan. 31, 1870	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party; also separate index, alph. by name of male.
Mar. 16, 1867- July 31, 1936	Record (Negro), 11 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party; also separate index, alph. by name of each party, 1867-1888.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, white), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents, Negro), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Jan. 28, 1835- July 30, 1936	Licenses, 39 file boxes. Chron. by date filed.
1919--	Physicians' certificates of antenuptial examination of male. 2 file boxes and 2 bundles. Chron. by date filed.

TALLADEGA COUNTY

Talladega

Jan. 22, 1854- Dec. 31, 1916, Aug. 1, 1936--	Record, 20 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Jan. 1, 1917- July 31, 1936	Record (white), 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Jan. 1, 1917- July 31, 1936	Record (Negro), 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Marriage Records

Talladega (cont.)

Apr. 12, 1856-June 19, 1846, Sept. 14, 1856-Apr. 11, 1870	Record (copy), 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Jan. 1, 1874-June 28, 1924	Licenses, 5 vols. Chron. by date issued.
Jan. 1, 1911-July 30, 1934, Aug. 1, 1936--	Applications for license, 2 bins, 1 box and 5 bundles. No obvious arr.
July 1924-July 1936	Reports of white marriages, 3 vols. Chron. by date of report and chron. thereunder by date license issued.
July 1924-Dec. 1927, Jan. 1930-July 1936	Reports of Negro marriages, 2 vols. Chron. by date of report and chron. thereunder by date license issued.
Jan. 1, 1911-Dec. 30, 1934	Licenses, 1 box. No obvious arr.

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY

Dadeville

Aug. 21, 1834--	Record, 19 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1865--	Record (Negro), 5 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

Tuscaloosa

1823-1882	Record, 8 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1882-1936	Record (white), 13 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1882-1936	Record (Negro), 9 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1847-1936	Licenses (white and Negro), 2 boxes and 4 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.

Marriage Records

WALKER COUNTY

Jasper

1877-July 31, 1936	Record, 35 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Aug. 1, 1936--	Record (transcripts of various marriage documents), 2 vols. Chron. by date of application. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1887-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 214 cardboard jackets. Chron. by date licenses returned.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chatom

1826-88	Record (white and Negro), 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1889-1936	Record (white), 6 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1889-1936	Record (Negro), 7 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
July 15, 1902-July 31, 1936	Licenses, 8 file drawers, 20 file boxes, and 15 bundles. Chron. by date licenses returned.

WILCOX COUNTY

Camden

July 11, 1820--	Record (white), 18 vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of male.
Sept. 2, 1865--	Record (Negro), 21, vols. Chron. by date filed. Indexed alph. by name of male.
1913-36	Record (white and Negro), 2 vols. Chron. by date filed.

WINSTON COUNTY

Double Springs

Aug. 12, 1891--	Record, 11 vols. Chron. by date issued. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
July 1936--	Applications for license, 1 box. Chron. by date issued.
1895-1936	Licenses, 3 boxes. Chron. by date issued.

DIVORCES

The history of divorce legislation in Alabama is obscure prior to 1803. In that year the Mississippi Territorial Legislature enacted legislation which provided that "the supreme or superior court of this territory, having equity jurisdiction, shall, . . . have jurisdiction of all causes of divorce . . . .."[1] Further legislation in 1807 created a superior court of law and equity in each county, and each such court was expressly stated to have chancery jurisdiction.[2]

The Alabama Constitution of 1819, which established the circuit court in each county to succeed the superior court of law and equity, contained the following provisions concerning divorce:

"The general assembly shall have power to establish a court or courts of chancery, . . . and until the establishment of such court or courts, the said jurisdiction shall be vested in the judges of the circuit courts respectively; . . .."[3]

"Divorces from the bonds of matrimony shall not be granted but in cases provided for by law, by suit in chancery; and no decree for such divorce shall have effect, until the same shall be sanctioned by two-thirds of both houses of the general assembly."[4]

In 1820 these constitutional measures were implemented with statutory provisions expressly declaring "the several circuit courts of this State . . . invested with power and jurisdiction to decree divorces."[5]

In 1839, all chancery jurisdiction, including divorces, was transferred from the circuit courts to separate chancery courts created in each county;[6] and these chancery courts continued to try divorce suits until, in 1917, the chancery court in each county was merged with the circuit court of that county, pursuant to legislation enacted two years earlier.[7] Thus, divorce proceedings became, and remain today, a function of the circuit court sitting in equity.

Making divorce decrees final continued to be the exclusive right of the Legislature until 1865, when the Constitutional Convention of

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1. Toulmin, op. cit., pp. 252 et seq.
2. Ibid., p. 487, sec. 43.
3. Const., 1819, art. V, sec. 8.
4. Ibid., art. VI, sec. 13.
5. Toulmin, op. cit., p. 255, sec. 1.
6. Ala. Acts, 1838, pp. 28-31.
7. Ala. Acts, 1915, p. 279, sec. 2.

that year adopted a provision that "decrees in chancery for divorce shall be final, unless appealed from, in the manner prescribed by law . . .."[8] The Alabama Supreme Court has since (in 1891, and again in 1911) held that divorces granted by special act of the Legislature are void.[9]

Since 1803, grounds for divorce in Alabama have included: Physical and incurable incapacity, at the time of marriage, to enter into the state of matrimony; adultery; and not less than two years voluntary abandonment.[10] In 1870 addiction, after marriage, to habitual drunkenness was added,[11] and current statute further specifies imprisonment in a state penitentiary for as much as two years of a sentence of seven years or longer; five successive years' confinement in an insane asylum when party from whom divorce is sought is hopelessly and incurably insane at the time the bill is filed; and addiction on the part of the husband, after marriage, to habitual use of narcotic drugs.[12] Residence in Alabama is required of complainant for at least one year;[13] and where the ground alleged is voluntary abandonment, one year of such residence must be definitely established.[14] If the respondent is a nonresident, the complainant must have (and must prove) one year's residence in this State.[15]

Registers in chancery in the several counties are not required to maintain separate files of divorce case papers, or to keep records of divorce proceedings as distinct from other equity causes. However, a separate Divorce Record has been kept for various periods in certain counties; and some registers likewise file divorce case papers apart from other equity papers.

Legislation enacted in 1907 requires each register in chancery, within the first five days of each calendar month, to report to the State Board of Health, on forms supplied by this Board, all divorces granted within his county during the preceding month.[16]

A duly certified copy of any certificate or affidavit made in connection with a divorce suit tried in any Alabama county, may be obtained from the register in chancery of the county, upon payment by the applicant of a fee of 50 cents.[17]

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8. Const., 1865, art. IV, sec. 30.
9. Jones v. Jones, 95 Ala. 443; Winkles v. Powell, 173 Ala. 46.
10. Toulmin, op. cit., p. 252, secs. 3-4.
11. Ala. Acts, 1869-70, p. 207, sec. 1.
12. Code, 1940, VI, 200, title 34, sec. 20, subdivisions 4, 6, 7.
13. Toulmin, op. cit., p. 253, sec. 1; Code, 1940, VI, 209, title 34, sec. 27.
14. Code, 1940, VI, 209, title 34, sec. 27.
15. Ibid., 210, title 34, sec. 29.
16. Ala. Acts, 1907, p. 893, sec. 18.
17. Code, 1940, III, 272, title 11, sec. 27.

Divorce Records

AUTAUGA COUNTY

Prattville — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

BALDWIN COUNTY

Bay Minette

Jan. 1917-Dec. 1936	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

BARBOUR COUNTY

Clayton

1908--	Record, 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

Eufaula — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

BIBB COUNTY

Centerville

Aug. 21, 1907--	Record, 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

BLOUNT COUNTY

Oneonta

May 7, 1938--	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

BULLOCK COUNTY

Union Springs

Dec. 15, 1905--	Record, 3 vols. Numer. by case no.

BUTLER COUNTY

Greenville

1906--	Record, 8 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1904--	Case papers, 19 file boxes. Numer. by case no.
1873-1931	Orders of publication, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1873-1931	Decrees pro confesso, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

CALHOUN COUNTY

Anniston — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

Divorce Records

CHAMBERS COUNTY

Lafayette — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

CHEROKEE COUNTY

Center
1917-33 — Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

CHILTON COUNTY

Clanton
1889-1922 — Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; also separate index, alph. by name of each party.

CHOCTAW COUNTY

Butler — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

CLARKE COUNTY

Grove Hill
1891-- — Record, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

CLAY COUNTY

Ashland — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

CLEBURNE COUNTY

Heflin — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

COFFEE COUNTY

Elba
1882-- — Record, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; also separate index, alph. by name of each party.

COLBERT COUNTY

Tuscumbia
1909 — Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

CONECUH COUNTY

Evergreen
1905-- — Record, 6 vols. Alph. by name of complainant.

Divorce Records

COOSA COUNTY

Rockford — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

COVINGTON COUNTY

Andalusia — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

CRENSHAW COUNTY

Luverne — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

CULLMAN COUNTY

Cullman — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

DALE COUNTY

Ozark

1917-- — Record, 3 vols. For 1917-20, see under Minutes. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; separate index, alph. by name of each party.

DALLAS COUNTY

Selma

1929-- — Report (To State Bureau of Vital Statistics), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

Apr. 15, 1890-Mar. 20, 1893 — Record (City Court of Selma), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry.

DEKALB COUNTY

Fort Payne — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

ELMORE COUNTY

Wetumpka — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Brewton

1890-95 — Record, 1 vol. Alph. by name of respondent.

ETOWAH COUNTY

Gadsden

1934-- — Report (To State Bureau of Vital Statistics), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Divorce Records

FAYETTE COUNTY

Fayette — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Russellville — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

GENEVA COUNTY

Geneva

1899-Jan. 14, 1917 — Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; also separate index, alph. by name of complainant.

GREENE COUNTY

Eutaw

Jan. 23, 1832-Oct. 1, 1898 — Record, 1 vol. Alph. by name of each party.

Jan. 27, 1891-- Final Record (divorce), 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

Mar. 12, 1917-- Decrees pro confesso, 1 file drawer. Chron. by date of issue.

HALE COUNTY

Greensboro

1889-- Record, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; also separate index, alph. by name of respondent.

HENRY COUNTY

Abbeville — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

HOUSTON COUNTY

Dothan

1903-- Record, 7 vols. Chron. by date of entry and numer. thereunder by case no. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

1924-- Testimony (papers), 1 file drawer. Numer. by case no. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

1924-- Receipts (for alimony), 4 vols. Numer. by case no. and alph. thereunder by name of each party.

Divorce Records

JACKSON COUNTY

Scottsboro — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Birmingham — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

LAMAR COUNTY

Vernon — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

LAUDERDALE COUNTY

Florence — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Moulton — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

LEE COUNTY

Opelika
1898-- — Record, 13 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party; also separate index, alph. by name of complainant.

LIMESTONE COUNTY

Athens
1896-- — Record, 9 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

LOWNDES COUNTY

Hayneville
July 1892-- — Record, 4 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

MACON COUNTY

Tuskegee — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

MADISON COUNTY

Huntsville — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

MARENGO COUNTY

Linden
1894-- — Record, 6 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

Divorce Records

MARION COUNTY

Hamilton — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

MARSHALL COUNTY

Guntersville
Sept. 15, 1892-- — Record, 7 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

MOBILE COUNTY

Mobile — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

MONROE COUNTY

Monroeville — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Montgomery — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

MORGAN COUNTY

Decatur — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

PERRY COUNTY

Marion
Feb. 12, 1917-Jan. 6, 1926 — Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

PICKENS COUNTY

Carrollton
1876-- — Record, 9 file drawers. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

PIKE COUNTY

Troy
1891-1916 — Record, 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

1916-32 — Minutes (divorce), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

Divorce Records

RANDOLPH COUNTY

Wedowee

1897-1917	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; also separate index, alph. by name of complainant.

RUSSELL COUNTY

Phenix City

1928--	Record (divorce decrees granted, serving northern division), 3 file drawers. Chron. by date filed.
Mar. 29, 1930--	Record (serving northern division), 5 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
1938--	Record (divorce decrees denied, serving northern division). Chron. by date of entry. 1 file drawer. Chron. by date filed.

Seale

June 25, 1917-Mar. 31, 1930	Record (serving whole county), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.
Apr. 1, 1930--	Record (serving southern division), 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

SHELBY COUNTY

Columbiana

Oct. 24, 1925--	Minutes (divorce), 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Ashville	(Separate records if any not surveyed)
Pell City	(Separate records if any not surveyed)

SUMTER COUNTY

Livingston	(Separate records if any not surveyed)

TALLADEGA COUNTY

Talladega

May 8, 1888-Sept. 1889	Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant.

Divorce Records

TALLAPOOSA COUNTY

Dadeville — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

Tuscaloosa — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

WALKER COUNTY

Jasper — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Chatom — (Separate records if any not surveyed)

WILCOX COUNTY

Camden

1890-1904, 1924-- Record, 4 vols. Alph. by name of complainant. Indexed alph. by name of each party.

WINSTON COUNTY

Double Springs

May 8, 1912-- Record, 2 vols. Chron. by date of entry. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; also separate indexes, alph. by names of complainant and respondent.

Aug. 28, 1925-- Report (To State Bureau of Vital Statistics), 3 vols. Chron. by date of entry.

Haleyville

July 20, 1920-- Record, 1 vol. Chron. by date of entry, with cases numbered consecutively. Indexed alph. by name of complainant; also separate indexes, alph. by names of complainant and respondent.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

Ala. ..... Alabama, *Alabama Reports*

Ala. Acts ..... *General Acts of Alabama*

alph. ..... alphabetical, alphabetically

arr. ..... arranged, arrangement

art. ..... article

chron. ..... chronological, chronologically

Code ..... *Code of Alabama*

Const. ..... *Constitution*

et seq. ..... *et sequentes* (and following)

Ibib. ..... *ibidem* (the same place)

no. nos. ..... number, numbers

numer. ..... numerical, numerically

op. cit. ..... *opere citato* (in the work cited)

p., pp. ..... page, pages

sec., secs. ..... section, sections

v. ..... versus

vol., vols. ..... volume, volumes

-- ..... current

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF ALABAMA COUNTIES WITH DATES OF THEIR CREATION

No.	County	Created
1.	Autauga	Nov. 21, 1818
2.	Baldwin	Dec. 21, 1809
3.	Barbour	Dec. 18, 1832
4.	Bibb	Feb. 7, 1818
5.	Blount	Feb. 6, 1818
6.	Bullock	Dec. 5, 1866
7.	Butler	Dec. 13, 1819
8.	Calhoun	Dec. 18, 1832
9.	Chambers	Dec. 18, 1832
10.	Cherokee	Jan. 9, 1836
11.	Chilton	Dec. 30, 1868
12.	Choctaw	Dec. 29, 1847
13.	Clarke	Dec. 10, 1812
14.	Clay	Dec. 7, 1866
15.	Cleburne	Dec. 6, 1866
16.	Coffee	Dec. 29, 1841
17.	Colbert	Feb. 6, 1867
18.	Conecuh	Feb. 13, 1818
19.	Coosa	Dec. 18, 1832
20.	Covington	Dec. 18, 1821
21.	Crenshaw	Nov. 24, 1866
22.	Cullman	Jan. 24, 1877
23.	Dale	Dec. 22, 1824
24.	Dallas	Feb. 9, 1818
25.	DeKalb	Jan. 9, 1836
26.	Elmore	Feb. 15, 1866
27.	Escambia	Dec. 10, 1868
28.	Etowah	Dec. 7, 1866
29.	Fayette	Dec. 20, 1824
30.	Franklin	Feb. 6, 1818
31.	Geneva	Dec. 26, 1868
32.	Greene	Dec. 13, 1819
33.	Hale	Jan. 30, 1867
34.	Henry	Dec. 13, 1819
35.	Houston	Feb. 9, 1903
36.	Jackson	Dec. 13, 1819
37.	Jefferson	Dec. 13, 1819
38.	Lamar	Feb. 4, 1867
39.	Lauderdale	Feb. 6, 1818
40.	Lawrence	Feb. 6, 1818
41.	Lee	Dec. 5, 1866
42.	Limestone	Feb. 6, 1818
43.	Lowndes	Jan. 20, 1830
44.	Macon	Dec. 18, 1832
45.	Madison	Dec. 13, 1808
46.	Marengo	Feb. 6, 1818
47.	Marion	Feb. 13, 1818
48.	Marshall	Jan. 9, 1836
49.	Mobile	Aug. 1, 1812
50.	Monroe	June 29, 1815
51.	Montgomery	Dec. 6, 1816
52.	Morgan	Feb. 6, 1818
53.	Perry	Dec. 13, 1819
54.	Pickens	Dec. 19, 1820
55.	Pike	Dec. 7, 1821
56.	Randolph	Dec. 18, 1832
57.	Russell	Dec. 18, 1832
58.	St. Clair	Nov. 20, 1818
59.	Shelby	Feb. 7, 1818
60.	Sumter	Dec. 18, 1832
61.	Talladega	Dec. 18, 1832
62.	Tallapoosa	Dec. 18, 1832
63.	Tuscaloosa	Feb. 6, 1818
64.	Walker	Dec. 26, 1823
65.	Washington	June 4, 1800
66.	Wilcox	Dec. 13, 1819
67.	Winston	Feb. 12, 1850

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